RON CHAPMAN, MD, MPH
Director & State Health Officer

Vital Statistics Advisory Committee (VSAC)
Vital Records Protection Advisory Committee (VRPAC)
Joint Meeting
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, May 9, 2012
9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
Governor

ATTENDEES:
Convener: Terri Mack, Chief, Health Information and Research Section, Acting Chair

Committee Members:
    Present: Jonathan Teague, MCRP
    Phone: Erlinda Valdez, Sue Holtby, MPH,

California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Staff:
    Present: Laura Lund, Krista Christian, Julie Turner, Cindy Tanaka-Fong, Nicolas Bowen

    CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 9:05 A.M.

    A/B. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS: Terri welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced that the meeting would be recorded to assist with minute taking. There were no public attendees. Research protocols are available on the SharePoint Site. Files are uploaded 3 weeks prior to the VSAC meeting. Terri reminded everyone to update their passwords as they are only good for 60 days.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:
    Jonathan Teague made a motion to approve the March 14, 2012 meeting minutes. Sue Holtby seconded the motion. All Committee members voted to approve the minutes.

D. VSAC RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:
    Attachment 1 State Registrar's Response to VSAC Recommendations is a recap of recommendations from the last meeting.

E. NEW BUSINESS:
    Ten projects were reviewed.

The first project reviewed by the Committee was:

Project Title: "Birth Defects Monitoring Program"

Principle Investigator(s): Marcia Ehinger, MD, CDPH, Maternal, Child, & Adolescent Health, Center for Family Health, Birth Defects Monitoring Program

Project Type: New Project

CPHS Approval: Approved

Project No.: 82-08-01

Expiration: August 3, 2012

File(s) Requested: 2008 and 2009 Birth Cohort File (BCF) (select variables) 2010 Birth Statistical Master File (BSMF) (select variables) 2009 Death Statistical Master File (DSMF) (select variables)

Requested Identifiers: BCF and BSMF (Name, Certificate Number, Address) DSMF (Name, Certificate Number, Mother's Maiden Name, and Address)

Personal Contact: No

Identifiers Released: No

History: New Research Project

VSAC Discussion: No discussion.

VSAC Recommendation(s): Approve the data request.

VSAC Motions: Jonathan motioned to recommend approval of the data request.   Sue seconded the motion.

VSAC Vote: Committee members all voted in favor of recommending approval of the data request. There were no oppositions. Motion carried.

The second project reviewed by the Committee was:

Project Title: "Impact of Obstetric Unit Closures on Pregnancy Outcomes"
Principle Investigator(s): Scott A. Lorch, MD, MSCE, University of Pennsylvania

Project Type: New Project

CPHS Approval: Approved.

Project No.: 11-06-28

Expiration: August 3, 2012

File(s) Requested: 2006-2009 OSHPD Linked PDD/Birth Cohort Data (select variables)
Requested Identifiers: No Personal identifiers California identifiers only

Personal Contact: No

Identifiers Released: No

History: New Research Project

VSAC Discussion: The committee questioned why researchers were looking at gestational age less than 23 weeks and greater than 44 weeks which represented a tiny percentage of total pregnancies when closures affect a broad range of pregnancy delivery and complications. Committee members concluded that project researchers were ultimately responsible for the research design.

VSAC Recommendation(s): Approve the data request.

VSAC Motions: Sue Holtby motioned to recommend approval of the data request. Jonathan Teague seconded the motion.

VSAC Vote: Committee members voted aye in favor of recommending approval of the data request. There were no oppositions. Motion carried.

The third project reviewed by the Committee was:

Project Title: "Vaccine Safety Datalink (VSD)"

Principle Investigator(s):   Wansu Chen, Kaiser Permanente Southern California, Department of Research and Evaluation

Project Type: Continuing Project with Revisions

CPHS Approval: Approved.

Project No.: 08-10-60

Expiration: October 5, 2012

File(s) Requested: 2010 Birth Statistical Master File (select variables), 2010 Death Statistical Master File (select variables), 2010 Fetal Death Statistical Master File (FDSMF) (select variables), 2008 and 2009 Multiple Cause of Death (MCOD) (select variables)

Requested Identifiers: BSMF (Name, Certificate Number, Address), DSMF (Name, Certificate Number, MMN, and Address), FDSMF (California identifiers only), MCOD (California identifiers only)

Personal Contact: No

Identifiers Released: No

History: Previous data request.

VSAC Discussion: The committee noticed that the requestor was seeking SSN from the birth file. Terri stated that sometimes we get requests for certain fields such as SSN, MMN and requestors are told that they cannot have that information.

VSAC Recommendation(s): Approve the data request.

VSAC Motions: Jonathan motioned to recommend the approval of the data. Sue seconded the motion.

VSAC Vote: The Committee members all voted aye in favor of recommending the approval of the data request. There were no oppositions. Motion carried.

The fourth project reviewed by the Committee was:

Project Title: "Assisted Reproductive Technology and Risk of Childhood Cancer"

Principle Investigator(s): Barbara Luck, ScD, MPH, Michigan State University and Logan Spector, PhD, University of Minnesota

Project Type: New Project

CPHS Approval: Not Required. Not Human Subject Research

Project No: N/A

Expiration: N/A

File(s) Requested: 2004 -2010 Birth Statistical Master File (select variables), 2004-2009 Fetal Death Statistical Master File (select variables)

Requested Identifiers: No Personal Identifiers

Personal Contact: No

Identifiers Released: No

History: New Research Project

VSAC Discussion: No discussion.

VSAC Recommendation(s): Approve the data request.

VSAC Motions: Sue motioned to recommend approval of the data request. Jonathan seconded the motion.

VSAC Vote: The Committee members all voted aye in favor of recommending the approval of the data request. There were no oppositions. Motion carried.

The fifth project reviewed by the Committee was:

Project Title: "Healthy City Direct Technical Assistance and www.healthycity.org Online Mapping and Analysis"

Principle Investigator(s): Leila Fourouzan, Healthy City Advancement Project

Project Type: Continuing Project with Revisions

CPHS Approval: Approved

Project No.: 10-08-63

Expiration: February 1, 2013

File(s) Requested: 2010 Birth Statistical Master File (select variables) 2009 Death Statistical Master File (select variables)

Requested Identifiers: No Personal Identifiers

Personal Contact: No

Identifiers Released: No

History: Previous Data Request

VSAC Discussion: Jonathan Teague asked what other members thought about republishing the data in a statistical abstract form. Terri stated that, although she was not speaking for the State Registrar, she has observed that HIRS has been receiving many requests in which the project aim is to repurpose the data.. Jonathan commented that the disclosure rules for Vital Statistics might be different than the ones for OSHPD. OSHPD has been approached by individuals who want to do worthy projects, taking the data and repurpose it and putting it on the internet. OSHPD has had a hard time feeling comfortable doing this.

VSAC Recommendation(s): Approve the data request.

VSAC Motions: Sue motioned to recommend the approval of the data request.   Jonathan seconded the motion.

VSAC Vote: Committee members all voted aye in favor of recommending the approval of the data request. There were no oppositions. Motion carried.

The sixth project reviewed by the Committee was:

Project Title: "The Development of Object Representation in Infancy"

Principle Investigator(s): Lisa M. Oakes, PhD, UC Davis Department of Psychology and Center for Mind and Brain

Project Type: Continuing Project with Revisions

CPHS Approval: Approved

Project No.: 07-04-06

Expiration: February 1, 2013

File(s) Requested: 2012 Birth Statistical Mater File (select variables) 2012 Infant Death Records (select variables)

Requested Identifiers: BSMF (Name, Mother's Address), Infant Death Records (Name, Mother's Address)

Personal Contact: Yes

Identifiers Released: No

History: Previous Data Request

VSAC Discussion: Discussion included the release of future vital events. Julie stated the requesters have been receiving data on a monthly basis as it becomes available.

VSAC Recommendation(s): Approve the data request.

VSAC Motions: Jonathan motioned to recommend the approval of the data request.   Erlinda Valdez seconded the motion.

VSAC Vote: Committee members all voted aye in favor of recommending the approval of the data request. There were no oppositions. Motion carried.

The seventh project reviewed by the Committee was:

Project Title: "Probabilistic Inference and Categorization Development in Infants"

Principle Investigator (PI):   Fei Xu, PhD, UC Berkeley, Department of Psychology

Project Type: Continuing Project with Revisions

(CPHS) Approval: Approved

Project No.:   11-12-26 10-10-05

Expiration: October 5, 2012

File(s) Requested: 2012 Birth Statistical Master File (select variables with personal identifiers), 2012 Infant Death Records (select variables), and Request for 2012 Birth Records, Special Run (select variables)

Requested Identifiers: BSMF (Name, Certificate Number, Address), Infant Death Records (Name, Certificate Number, Address), Special Request (Name, Certificate Number, Address), Special Run (California identifiers only)

Personal Contact: Yes

Identifiers Released: No

History: Previous Data Request

VSAC Discussion: Jonathan said he did not get the vital statistics application for this protocol and was given the application to review during the meeting.

VSAC Recommendation(s): Approve the data request.

VSAC Motions: Erlinda made a motion to recommend approval of the data request.   Jonathan seconded the motion.

VSAC Vote: The Committee members all voted to approve the data request. There were no oppositions. Motion carried.

The eighth project reviewed by the Committee was:

Project Title: "Language Acquisition in Children"

Principle Investigator(s): Fei Xu, PhD, UC Berkeley, Department of Psychology

Project Type: Continuing Project with Revisions

CPHS Approval: Approved

Project No.:   10-10-24

Expiration: October 7, 2011

File(s) Requested: 2012 Birth Statistical Master File (select variables with personal identifiers) 2012 Infant Death Records (select variables with personal identifiers)

Requested Identifiers: California identifiers only

Personal Contact: Yes

Identifiers Released: No

History: Previous Data Request

VSAC Discussion: Julie commented that the data would be shared with the previously presented project.

VSAC Recommendation(s):   Approve the data request.

VSAC Motions: Sue motioned to approve the recommendation.   Erlinda seconded the motion.

VSAC Vote: The Committee members voted to approve the data request. There were no oppositions. Motion carried.

The ninth project reviewed by the Committee was:

Project Title: "Sudden Cardiac Death in Young Athletes Due to Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy"

Principle Investigators: Ruey-Kang Chang, Md, MPH, Los Angeles Biomedical Research Center

Project Type: New Project

CPHS Approval: Requested

Project No.: Pending CPHS approval

Expiration: Pending CPHS approval

File(s) Requested: 2005-2008 Merged Death Files obtained by another study

Requested Identifiers: Names and Certificate Numbers

Personal Contact: No

Identifiers Released: No

History: New Research Project

VSAC Discussion: The requester currently has the data, but is seeking State Registrar approval to use the data for this new project. They already had the data but wanted to use the data for the new study, and were asking for permission.

VSAC Recommendation(s): Approve the data request.

VSAC Motions: Sue motioned to approve the recommendation. Jonathan seconded the motion.

VSAC Vote: The Committee members all voted to approve the data request. There were no oppositions. Motion carried.

The tenth project reviewed by the Committee was:

Project Title: "California Child Welfare Performance Indicators Project/California Children's Service Archive"

Principle Investigators: Emily Putnam-Hornstein, PhD, UC Berkeley, Social Services Research

Project Type: Continuing Project with Revisions

CPHS Approval: Approved

Project No.: 09-12-51

Expiration: December 2, 2011

File(s) Requested: 2007 and 2008 Birth Cohort File (select variables)

2008 and 2009 Death Statistical Master File (entire file)

Requested Identifiers: BCF (California identifiers only) DSMF (Name, Certificate Number, Address, SSN, MMN)

Personal Contact: No

Identifiers Released: No

History: Previous Data Request

VSAC Discussion: Jonathan commented that this appeared to be a broad gauge study, which seemed to be two separate purposes. The primary purpose targets kids aging out of the foster care system but the researcher was requesting the birth cohort file. The second part of the study would be comparing those kids who were in foster care with kids who were not in foster care.
VSAC Recommendation(s):   Approve the data request.

VSAC Motions: Sue motioned to approve the recommendation.   Jonathan seconded the motion.

VSAC Vote: The Committee members all voted to approve the data request. There were no oppositions. Motion carried.

F. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION: Terri asked the Committee to refer to Item F, Recap of Data Requests Approved in the Vital Statistics Unit – Attachment 3.

G. Public Comment: There were no participants from the public.

H. There were no agenda items.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 A.M.